

**TOWN OF TUPPER LAKE SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING**

September 25, 2013

Roll Call: Supervisor Roger Amell  
 Councilman John Quinn  
 Councilwoman Patricia Littlefield  
 Councilman Gerald Fletcher

Absent: Councilwoman Kathleen Lefebvre

Recording Secretary: Laurie J Fuller – Town Clerk

Press: Dan McClelland – Tupper Lake Free Press  
 Shaun Kittle – Adirondack Daily Enterprise

Also: Mike Fritts – Youth Activity Director

Guest: Pete Edwards  
 Maureen Peroza  
 Hope Frenette  
 Rick Donah

Supervisor Amell called special board meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Approve resolution opposing  
 Closure of Chateaugay Facility:

**RESOLUTION No. 27 – 2013**  
 Of  
 The Town Board of the Town of Tupper Lake,  
 Franklin County, New York

Resolution Strongly Opposing the Closure of Chateaugay Correctional Facility

**WHEREAS:** The New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision plans to close the Chateaugay Correctional Facility in 2014; and

**WHEREAS:** The Town of Tupper Lake strongly opposes the closing of the Chateaugay Correctional Facility as it will have a detrimental affect to the economy of Franklin County and to its residents as it employs 111 employees; and

**WHEREAS:** Franklin County fully knows the devastating effect of a correctional facility closure with the closing of Camp Gabriels; and

**WHEREAS:** Franklin County cannot afford to lose any more jobs in our communities; and

**WHEREAS:** Franklin County has always welcomed correctional facilities when other counties in New York State rejected these facilities in their communities; and

**WHEREAS:** The North Country has built its economy around New York State correctional facilities making our economy now dependent on open and functional facilities.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Town Board of the Town of Tupper Lake, Franklin County New York, passed a resolution at a special board meeting held September 25, 2013, strongly opposing the closure of the Chateaugay Correctional Facility and urges the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to reverse their decision on the closure of this facility.

Date: September 25, 2013

Supervisor Amell AYE

Councilwoman Lefebvre	Absent
Councilman Quinn	AYE
Councilwoman Littlefield	AYE
Councilman Fletcher	AYE

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Laurie J Fuller – Town Clerk RMC

Motion made by Councilman Quinn  
Seconded by Councilwoman Littlefield

2. Approve Resolution for removal of rails for  
Multi-use recreational trail:

Supervisor Amell suggested doing in two phases with first phase being Lake Placid to Tupper Lake.  
Councilman Quinn suggested changing some of the language in resolution paragraph seven and nine.

Motion to approve resolution with amendments presented by Councilman Quinn was made by Councilman Quinn.

Seconded by Councilwoman Littlefield  
All Town Board Members voted AYE 4/0 Amell, Quinn, Littlefield & Fletcher

**Resolution #28 – 2013**

**WHEREAS;** with the rails gone, the rail bed would be in optimum condition for trail purposes, and

**WHEREAS;** the removal of the rails and ties would make the corridor much more attractive as a trail than if the rails and ties were to remain in place making the economic benefits imparted to nearby communities greater, and

**WHEREAS;** this would create a unique long-distance trunk trail that could provide public access to the open space and recreational resources of the Adirondack Forest Preserve, provide trail linkages with remote Adirondack communities and local trail systems and thereby impart economic benefits to the region by attracting trail users, and

**WHEREAS;** because trail uses would be promoted, this would require less funding from the State and other sources for corridor construction and maintenance, and

**WHEREAS;** the travel corridor is the State of New York Snowmobile Trail Plan’s most critical link. There is no other practical long-distance trail route through the Adirondack Park for snowmobiles, and

**WHEREAS;** it appears that there would be a more rapid and greater economic benefit to the Towns situated along the corridor through multiple use recreation with the rails removed, and

**WHEREAS;** the Remsen to Lake Placid Travel Corridor Unit Management Plan (UMP) suggests, an alternative of designation of the corridor as a multi-use recreation trail. There is no singular issue related to state land use in the Adirondacks presently generating as much public interest as the possible rail to trail conversion. The New York State DOT & New York State DEC have been remiss in not proceeding to opening the UMP in a more timely fashion.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;** The Town Board of the Town of Tupper Lake hereby supports the removal, salvage and sale of the rails along the corridor with the proceeds of said sale to be put into development of the multi-use recreational trail concept, and

**FURTHER RESOLVED;** The Town Board of the Town of Tupper Lake for the good of our economy, hereby requests that Governor Cuomo, DEC Commissioner Martens, DOT Commissioner McDonald and expedite, opening and reviewing the UMP to effect a rail-to-trail conversion of the corridor, and

**RESOLVED;** copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor, the Commissioners of the NYS Department of Transportation and Department of Environmental Conservation, the Adirondack Park Agency, members of the State Assembly and Senate who represent Adirondack and adjoining communities; the Adirondack Association of Towns and Village and to such others who may have an interest in the economic future of the Town of Tupper Lake and the future of the Corridor.

**Date:** September 25, 2013

**Motion:** Councilman Quinn

**Seconded:** Councilwoman Littlefield

**Absent:** Councilwoman Lefebvre

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Laurie J Fuller, Town Clerk RMC

**Action:** Carried 4/0 vote Amell, Quinn, Littlefield, Fletcher

seal

3. Set Date for October Board Meeting:

Due to Holiday on October 14<sup>th</sup> and Conference in Potsdam on October 15<sup>th</sup> board members agreed to set Regular October meeting for Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 4:00 p.m..

4. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn at 10:15 a.m. was made by Councilman Quinn

Seconded by Councilwoman Littlefield

All Town Board Members voted AYE 4/0 Amell, Quinn, Littlefield & Fletcher

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Laurie J Fuller – Town Clerk RMC